

To: Wall, Dan[wall.dan@epa.gov]
From: Schmittdiel, Paula
Sent: Mon 2/23/2015 10:38:20 PM
Subject: RE: March-April Sampling

Dan – Liz, Steve and I are meeting tomorrow afternoon (Tuesday) @ 3:00 pm in Teaming Room 5202 to discuss monitoring for R/B impacts if you care to join us.

Paula Schmittdiel

Remedial Project Manager

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From: Wall, Dan
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 1:04 PM
To: Schmittdiel, Paula; Fagen, Elizabeth; Way, Steven
Subject: RE: March-April Sampling

I was thinking the ESAT folks in Golden would do the analyses, but that is Don's call.

The attached form is our mod form.

From: Schmittdiel, Paula
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 12:49 PM
To: Wall, Dan; Fagen, Elizabeth; Way, Steven

Subject: RE: March-April Sampling

Dan – As we discussed, you said you would make a simple revision to the QAPP from last year to address the sampling Lisa will do in the next ~8weeks. I think its real important that all data collection that we are supporting in some fashion is covered under an approved QAPP to avoid legal challenges down the road.

When Lisa collects these samples does she send them to a CLP lab?

Paula Schmittiel

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From: Wall, Dan

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 12:41 PM

To: Schmittiel, Paula; Fagen, Elizabeth; Way, Steven

Subject: FW: March-April Sampling

From: Peter Butler [<mailto:butlerpeter2@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 12:00 PM

To: Lisa Richardson; Wall, Dan
Subject: March-April Sampling

Dan and Lisa – I thought some more about the weekly sampling and looked more at the April 2003 tracer. I'm not sure if its worthwhile sampling Arrastra. I suspect it doesn't carry a lot of metal load.

From the tracer study, it looks like T3, just upstream of Boulder Creek and T5, where the Lakawana Bridge used to be would be good points to breakup the segment. T3 might not have easy access with snow. The other possibility would be T4 that I suggested in an earlier email and T5.

I am sending an aerial photo of the tailings ponds in a separate email. Sometimes large files don't get through to EPA.

T5 is just off the lower left side of the picture. The straight road going to the river is the access. Sunnyside put in a reactive barrier wall to reduce loading from groundwater on the uphill side of that straight road in the fall of 2003 – after the tracer. Sampling at T5 and A68 might give an indication if that wall is doing any good.

The description of T4 refers to a drainage at the powerplant. I don't see that on the aerial photo and have been told the drainage no longer exists. So perhaps a place to sample is just below the straight drainage ditch upstream from the powerplant that Sunnyside put in to convey drainage from behind the tailings ponds. That ditch is lined, and Larry Perino told me Sunnyside sampled the top and bottom of the ditch a number of times and never saw high metals.

There were tailings upstream of the straight drainage ditch between the road and the river when the tracer was conducted. Sunnyside removed those tailings in the summer of 2003 after the tracer.

I had lunch with Larry Perino a couple of days ago. Sunnyside has been meeting with a number of people to discuss their response to the agency letter. We spent much of the time looking at the

aerial photo and talking about the remediation work Sunnyside has done at the tailings pond. He didn't think that Arrastra was a big loader or that it needed to be sampled this spring. He is quite interested in having Lisa break up the segment further to define where the loading is. That is probably the first step Sunnyside will take in its investigation plan, but it is doubtful they will do field work in March and April.

He also noted that tailings pond #1 breached into Boulder Creek in 1975 and deposited tailings all along the banks of the Animas down to the Lakawana. That might be one source of spring metal loading.

Ponds 1 and 2 were shut down after that and tailings pond #3 was used for the next two years while they got pond #4 permitted and constructed. They started using pond #4 in 1977.

Peter Butler

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